

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 04407 201637Z

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ACTION SS-25

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 1 LINE 10)

FOR EB ENDERS, EUR HARTMAN AND PREEG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

S/UBJECT: OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING DATES

1. IN COURSE OF BROAD TOUR D'HORIZON WITH HARTMAN
FEBRUARY 19 OECD SEC GEN VAN LENNEP AGAIN RAISED EU
QUESTION OF OECD MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DATES. IN RESPONSE
TO VAN LENNEP'S QUESTION, HARTMAN SAID CONSIDERATION WAS
BEING GIVEN TO SECRETARY'S PARTICIPATION IN AT LEAST
PART OF THE MEETING. WHILE NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE
IT WOULD BE USEFUL, HARTMAN SAID, TO ARRANGE IT SO THAT
NATO AND OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING DATES ARE IN REASONABLY
CLOSE PROXIMITY TO EACH OTHER. VAN LENNEP AGREED AND
REITERATED HIS (AND BRITISH) DISSATISFACTION WITH SECRETARY SIMON'S
PROPOSAL TO HOLD MEETING ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON AND
FRIDAY JUNE 12 AND 13 ON GROUNDS THAT MANY MINISTERS
WOULD NOT ATTEND OECD AFTER A SEQUENCE CONSISTING OF
G-10, INTERIM COMMITTEE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. HE
PREFERS TO HOLD G-10 ON A SUNDAY AND OECD ON MONDAY
AND TUESDAY WITH INTERIM AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES TO
FOLLOW. HE ALSO FORESEES THAT AN IEA MINISTERIAL MEETING
COULD BE HELD BACK TO BACK WITH THE OECD MINISTERIAL
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PAGE 02 OECD P 04407 201637Z

MEETING. THIS WOULD BE ESPECIALLY DESIRABLE IF SECRE-

TARY KISSINGER WERE TO ATTEND THE OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING -- SUCH A MEETING COULD BE HELD, HE SAID, ON THE SUNDAY PRECEDING THE OECD MEETING AT THE SAME TIME AS G-10 IS MEETING.

2. VAN LENNEP REPORTED THAT DURING HIS VISIT TO BONN THE DAY BEFORE APEL INSISTED THAT HE WANTED A MINISTERIAL MEETING TO SIGN THE SOLIDARITY FUND AGREEMENT. VAN LENNEP WHO CONTINUES TO WANT A FINANCE MINISTERS MEETING IN MARCH SAID SUCH A MEETING WOULD NOT BE PURELY CEREMONIAL; THE MINISTERS WOULD ALSO HOLD A BROAD DISCUSSION OF THE GENERAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION BASED ON THE WORK OF THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE AND WORKING PARTY III. IN RESPONSE TO HARTMAN'S QUESTION AS TO THE EFFECT OF A MARCH MEETING ON THE JUNE MINISTERIAL MEETING VAN LENNEP SAID THE FRENCH, B-IT BRITISH AND OTHERS STILL WANT A REGULAR JUNE MEETING AND IN THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION VAN LENNEP THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HOLD ANOTHER MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION IN JUNE. IT WAS CLEAR HOWEVER THAT VAN LENNEP WAS NOT SURE WHETHER THERE WOULD BE A GOOD TURNOUT OF THE FINANCE MINISTERS AT THE JUNE MEETING IF A ARCH MEETING WERE HELD. HARTMAN SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW WE DID NOT HAVE A POSITION ON A MARCH MINISTERIAL MEETING. WE WOULD CONSIDER THE RELATIONSHIP TO THE PREPARATORY MEETING AND MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON HOW SUCH A MEETING IS STRUCTURED AND WHAT IT WOULD DISCUSS.

3. MR. HARTMAN ASSURED VAN LENNEP HE WOULD TRY AND SORT OUT THE QUESTION OF THE JUNE MINISTERIAL DATES UPON HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON.
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